



Docket 1474(Touchstone)

In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

In re Application of: Joseph

Serial No.: 09/882,096

Group Art Unit: 1771

Filed: June 15, 2001

Examiner: Vo, Hai

For: Rib-Stiffened Composite Structure

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By Auzville Jackson, Jr.
Auzville Jackson, Jr.

Response

**Hon. Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

Sir:

In response to the Official Action Mailed January 21, 2004, please enter the following amendment and consider the following remarks.

Amendments

In the Claims:

At claim 10, line 2 after "micro" second occurrence delete ",";

At claim 1, line 2 after "multi-void" second occurrence, insert - - ranging in width from a few millimeters up to several inches - -.

Insert the following new claims 21 and 22:

21) (New) A structural composite sandwich comprising:

**A) an extruded integral multi-void core having two
opposing planar surfaces and between said opposing**

- planar surfaces a plurality of longitudinal, continuous, parallel channels or voids defined by ribs extending between said opposing planar surfaces; and**
- B) at least one layer of a composite stiffening material attached to each of said two planar surfaces.**

22) (New) The structural composite sandwich of claim 21 wherein said micro multi-void is fabricated from a metal and said at least one layer of a composite stiffening material comprises a metal matrix composite.

These amendments are shown in the attached Listing of Claims.